

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13 /079 W  
-----062299 122055Z /66

P R 121439Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE PRIORITY 1678  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MADRID 6748

USEEC AMD EMBASSY

E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SP  
SUBJECT: THE DIADA: BARCELONA WAS A FIESTA

1. IN WHAT WAS PERHAPS ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE MANIFESTATIONS SPAIN HAS EVER SEEN, OVER ONE MILLION CATALANS RALLIED PEACEFULLY YESTERDAY IN DOWNTOWN BARCELONA TO CELEBRATE THE "DIADA," OR DAY OF CATALONIA (THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOSS OF THE REGION'S AUTONOMY TO THE TROOPS OF PHILIP V ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1714). HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF FESTIVE PARTICIPANTS FORMED UP THROUGHOUT THE AFTERNOON BEHIND THE CATALAN DEPUTIES AND SENATORS ELECTED ON JUNE  
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15. AFTER HEARING A TAPED MESSAGE FROM GENERALITAT PRESIDENT-IN-EXILE TARRADELLAS (HE REMAINED IN FRANCE BUT WAS REPRESENTED BY HIS "DELEGATE" FREDERIC RAHOLA) THE MARCHERS PROCEED THROUGH VARIOUS DOWNTOWN AVENUES TO THE TRIUMPHAL ARCH, WHERE THEY DISPERSED PEACEFULLY. ALONG THE WAY, THEY WAVED A SEA OF FLAGS, BANNERS AND POSTERS OF ALMOST EVERY IMAGINABLE SORT (PRINCIPALLY

THE CATALAN "SENYERA" OF RED AND GOLD). SANG THE CATALAN ANTHEM, "ELS SEGADORS," CHANGED "LIBERTY, AMNESTY AND STATUTE OF AUTONOMY," AND-ACCORDING TO AMCONGEN BARCELONA AND OTHERS GENERALLY HAD A WONDERFUL TIME.

2. SOME 2500 OF THE RALLY'S OWN CORPS OF MARSHALS KEPT ORDER ALONG THE ROUTE, AND THE BARCELONA CHIEF OF POLICE, IN A COMMUNIQUE RELEASED LAST NIGHT, COMPLIMENTED THE ORGANIZERS AND PARTICIPANTS FOR THEIR "PERFECT COLLABORATION" WITH THE POLICE AND FOR THE "PERFECT ORDER" OF THE PROCEEDINGS. THE COMMUNIQUE, HOWEVER, ALSO MADE REFERENCE TO DISTURBANCES PERPETRATED AFTER AND "INDEPENDENTLY OF " THE MARCH BY SCATTERED GROUPS OF "FAR LEFTISTS" IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA AROUND THE RAMBLAS. ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE, SMALL KNOTS OF AGITATORS PROVOKED THE POLICE BY BLOCKING TRAFFIC, THROWING OBSTACLES INTO THE STREETS AND, IN ONE CASE TOSSING A MOLOTOV COCKTAIL AT A POLICE JEEP (WHICH BURNED THREE PATROLMEN INSIDE). THERE WERE SCATTERED CLASHES BETWEEN POLICE AND EXTREMIST DEMONSTRATORS, AND ONE OF THE LATTER REPORTEDLY WAS IN SERIOUS CONDITION IN A BARCELONA HOSPITAL AS THE RESULT OF A RUBBER BULLET WOUND.

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-----065338 122053Z /66

P R 121439Z SEP 77  
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USEEC AMD EMBASSY

E.O.11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: THE DIADA: BARCELONA WAS A FIESTA

3. THE FESTIVE AIR OF THE DIADA COMMEMORATION WAS THE RESULT PRIMARILY OF THE FACT THAT THE PROVISIONAL RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GENERALITAT NOW APPEARS IMMINENT. AFTER MONTHS OF PEREGRINATIONS BETWEEN BARCELONA, ST. MARTIN LE BEAU, FRANCE (WHERE TARRADELLAS RESIDES), AND MADRID AND FANCY NEGOTIATING FOOTWORK ON THE PART OF THE THREE PRINCIPAL INTERLOCUTORS (THE GOS, TARRADELLAS, AND THE CATALAN PARLIAMENTARIANS), THE CONTENT OF THREE ROYAL DECREE-LAWS GOVERNING THE PROVISIONAL RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GENERALITAT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND WHICH WILL TAKE EFFECT THE DAY OF THEIR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL STATE BULLETIN (BOE), WERE LEAKED TO THE PRESS THE EVENING OF SEPT 10. BRIEFLY, THEIR MAIN PROVISIONS ARE: THE GENERALITAT CONSISTS OF TWO ORGANS, THE PRESIDENT AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, PRESIDED OVER BY THE PRESIDENT (BUT NO PARLIAMENT, AS HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN THE CASE). THE PRESIDENT OF THE PROVISIONAL GENERALITAT WILL BE NAMED BY ROYAL DECREE, JOSEP TARRADELLAS IS SO NAMED. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CAN HAVE AS MANY AS 12 MEMBERS, PLUS THE PRESIDENTS OF THE FOUR CATALAN PROVINCIAL DIPUTATIONS (BARCELONA, GERONA, LERIDA, AND TARRAGONA), THE PRESIDENT APPARENTLY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO NAME THE UP TO 12 APPOINTED MEMBERS.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PROVISIONAL GENERALITAT ALSO WILL BE PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL DIPUTATION OF BARCELONA, ALTHOUGH HE CAN DELEGATE SOMEONE ELSE TO ASSUME THE POST. THE LEAKED DECREES DO NOT GO INTO DETAIL CONCERNING THE SPECIFIC POWERS OF THE PROVISIONAL GENERALITAT THEY APPARENTLY WILL BE LARGELY SYMBOLIC UNTIL THE CENTRAL GOVT AGREES ON THE DEVOLUTION OF POWER AND THE PROVINCIAL DIPUTATIONS AGREE ON WHICH OF THEIR POWERS WILL BE ASSUMED BY THE GENERALITAT (SEE BELOW).

TWO MIXED COMMISSIONS ARE FORMED. THE FIRST, WITHIN THE PRESIDENCY OF GOVT, WILL CONSIST OF 15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PROVISIONAL GENERALITAT AND 15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MADRID GOVT. IT WILL STUDY THE DEVOLUTION OF POWER BY THE CENTRAL GOVT. THE SECOND, WITHIN THE GENERALITAT, WILL CONSIST OF 8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THAT ORGANISM AND 2 REPRESENTATIVES EACH FROM THE FOUR CATALAN PROVINCES. IT WILL STUDY THE TRANSFER OF POWERS FROM THE PROVINCES TO THE GENERALITAT.

4. ALL CONCERNED-GOS, TARRADELLAS, AND THE CATALAN  
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PARLIAMENTARIANS APPEAR TO BE SATISFIED WITH THE DECREES,  
WHICH CLEARLY ARE A POLITICAL COUP ON SUAREZ' PART. ALTHOUGH  
THEY GIVE TARRADELLAS MORE PERSONAL POWER THAN THE PARLIAMENTARIANS  
WOULD HAVE LIKED AND OMIT ANY REFERENCE TO THE  
DESIRED CATALAN PARLIAMENT, WE ASSUME THAT THE PARLIAMENTARIANS  
PARTICULARLY THE CATALAN SOCIALIST (PSC/PSOE) ARE  
NOT COMPLAINING BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN ASSURED TARRADELLAS  
SELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL GENERALLY REFLECT  
THE CATALAN ELECTION OUTCOME. WHATEVER THE CASE, EVERYONE  
SEEMS PLEASED AT THE MOMENT, THE DIADA WAS A ROARING  
SUCCESS BY ALMOST ANY STANDARD, AND EYES ARE NOW TURNING  
TO THE MUCH KNOTTIER ISSUE OF THE PROVISIONAL RE-ESTABLISHMENT  
OF A BASQUE REGIONAL GOVT.EATON

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## Message Attributes

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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009